

FTA Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Federal Fiscal Years 2015, 2016 and 2017

PROGRAM FACT SHEET AND TIMELINE

Program Purpose:

Provide capital and operating assistance grants for projects that meet the transportation needs of seniors and individuals with disabilities: where public mass transportation services are otherwise unavailable, insufficient or inappropriate; that exceed the requirements of the ADA; that improve access to fixed-route service; that provide alternatives to public transportation.

Funds Available FFY 2015 – 2017

- Approximately \$28 million in Federal funds for Large UZAs; and \$20 million for Small Urban and Rural.
- Projects are funded 100% with Federal funds upon FTA approval of Transportation Development Credits (Toll Credits)
- FTA mandates that at least 55% of funding is used for vehicle and other equipment projects.
- FTA mandates that no more than 45% of funding be used for Operating Assistance and Mobility Management projects.

NEW this grant cycle: Electronic Grants Management System (EGM). All projects will be administered online from application to project closeout. Less paper, more efficiency! EGM training will be in January 2017.

Eligible Applicants:

- * Private non-profit corporations; (Vehicles, Other Equipment, Mobility Management and Operating Assistance);
- * Public agencies where no private non-profits are readily available to provide the proposed service (Vehicles and Other Equipment);
- * Public agencies that have been approved by the State to coordinate services (Vehicles and Other Equipment);
- * Public agencies (Operating Assistance and Mobility Management);
- * An Operator of Public Transportation that receives a Section 5310 grant indirectly through a recipient (Operating Assistance and Mobility Management).

Eligible Equipment:

- * Accessible vans and buses;
- * Mobile radios and communication equipment;
- * Computer hardware and software

Vehicle Replacement Eligibility:

Vehicle(s) must be in active service. Active service is defined as a vehicle providing service throughout the agency's normal days and hours of operation. A replacement bus(s) or van must meet or exceed useful life at the time of application.

Service Expansion Eligibility: Applicants must be able to document that the proposed transportation service will provide:

- * Services to additional persons; or
- * Expand the service area or hours; or
- * Increase the number and/or frequency of trips.

Eligible Mobility Management Activities: Include, but are not limited to:

- * Planning, development, implementation of coordinated transportation services;
- * Travel training/trip planning.

Eligible Operating Activities: Include, but are not limited to:

- * Expansion of hours/service of paratransit service beyond the requirements of ADA;
- * Enhancement of services (same day; etc.)
- * New or expansion of Volunteer Driver Programs.

Funding Selection Process:

1. The Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA) scores the applications using established evaluation criteria and completes a prioritized list for their region.
2. The State Review Committee reviews the RTPA scores, and compiles a statewide-prioritized list of projects based on available funding.
3. The California Transportation Commission (CTC) holds a public hearing to review and adopt the final list of small urban and rural projects.
4. Caltrans submits approved projects to the FTA.

Program Requirements: Once approved by FTA, successful applicants enter into a Standard Agreement with Caltrans. The agreement remains in effect until the project's useful life; or, for mobility management or operating assistance projects, the Standard Agreement duration. Grantees are responsible for the proper use, operating costs, and maintenance of all project equipment. Grantees must be prepared to comply with the requirements of Caltrans, the Department of Motor Vehicles, and the regulations of the California Highway Patrol.

PROGRAM NOTE:

FTA Section 5310 vehicles are purchased by Caltrans using a State procurement process. Upon Caltrans approval, public agencies may follow their own local procurement process. However, the grantee must comply with state and federal procurement procedures when purchasing with local funds. Upon project completion, the grantee requests reimbursement from Caltrans for the Federal Share.

5310 PROGRAM TIMELINE

- November 2016** - RTPA/MPO Training scheduled for Redding, Sacramento, Riverside
- Begin Schedule for Public Hearings (Public Transit Only)
- January 9, 2017** - Call for Projects
- Grant Application Workshops
- January 9-13, 2017** - EGM Training for Agencies/RTPAs and Application Workshops (Workshops scheduled for Redding, Sacramento, Oakland, Visalia, San Bernardino/Riverside area). See [2017 Applicant Workshop Flyer](#).
- March 1, 2017** - Applications are closed on EGM for any additional entry. System locks applications at 5 PM on March 1. Before EGM closes RTPAs certify to Caltrans that all projects are included in their respective Coordinated Plans.
- The RTPAs score the vehicles and equipment applications. SRC verifies the RTPAs' scores on the vehicle and equipment project applications. SRC scores the Operating Assistance and Mobility Management applications.
- Complete Public Hearings (**must be completed by April 3, 2017**)
- April 3, 2017** - RTPAs verify regional prioritized lists on EGM to be submitted to FTA by Caltrans.
- Grace period for completing Public Hearings ends.
- April 2017** - Regional scores are merged into a statewide-prioritized list of projects.
- May 2017** - Submit draft list to CTC for book item at the upcoming CTC meeting
- CTC distributes public draft Program of Projects (POP)
- June 2017** - CTC conducts staff level conference for the SRC to hear any filed appeals
- CTC conducts public hearing to adopt final POP
- Final POP distributed publicly
- Projects are programmed in the FTIP **prior to Submittal of Grant to FTA. Rural will be programmed by Caltrans into the FTIP**
- August 2017** - Schedule Successful Applicant Workshops, verify new agency information
- After verification that all projects have been programmed, approved POP submitted to FTA for funding approval
- After FTA's final approval, Standard Agreement process initiated
- Procurement process begins.

*For additional information call our toll free number (1.888.472.6816) or visit our website at:
<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/MassTrans/5310.html>*